

humane and democratic world that is governed by the rule of law. I welcome them to this cause and wish them a safe and peaceful journey.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY OF WALNUT CREEK

**HON. GEORGE MILLER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 14, 2014*

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and celebrate the 100th anniversary of the incorporation of Walnut Creek, California.

Walnut Creek is a vibrant city within the boundaries of my 11th Congressional District in Contra Costa County. Once a small rural town, east of San Francisco, Walnut Creek has evolved into a beautiful city with plenty of open space and the reputation as a regional destination for shopping and fine dining.

Walnut Creek began as the home to four tribes of the Bay Miwok: the Chupcans, in the northern part of the Diablo Valley; the Sacans, in present day Lafayette as well as in smaller valleys of the east bay hills; the Volvon, in areas surrounding Mount Diablo and Marsh Creek; and the Talcans along the San Ramon Creek. The region's history was first recorded in 1772 when Spanish explorer Captain Pedro Fages led the first group of explorers into the Contra Costa County. The area began seeing an increase in settlement following the Mexican Revolution in 1821. In 1834 Mexico encouraged settlement in its new territory and as a result, four large land grants were made available. In 1849 the first American settler arrived and built a cabin in an area called Rancho Arroyo de las Nueces y Bolbones, one of the original 4 land grants. Americans called this area "Nuts Creek" due to the many walnut trees and creeks that were in the region.

Following the Mexican-American War, California became a U.S. Territory and subsequently gained statehood in 1850. As the area grew, commercial structures were built including, a hotel, general store, a blacksmith shop, and a meat market. Twelve years later with the establishment of the U.S. Post Office the community was officially named "Walnut Creek".

As years passed Walnut Creek continued to grow. In 1871, a plan to build a school failed for lack of funding, so the residents took the initiative to tax themselves \$15.00 and Walnut Creek Central School was built. This tradition of valuing education remains as strong today as evidenced by Walnut Creek's exceptional elementary, middle and high school programs.

Residents continue to generously support the schools with their time, talent and their money to ensure a bright future for all of their children.

The City of Walnut Creek was officially incorporated on October 21, 1914 making it the eighth city in Contra Costa County. Originally a small town comprised of 500 acres, Walnut Creek now covers almost 20 square miles.

In 1951 Walnut Creek entered its modern era of commercial growth. Broadway Plaza opened with 38 shops. The '50s also saw the first population boom for the region as total

population soared from 2,460 in 1950 to 9,903 in 1960 and 39,844 in 1970. On May 25 of 1976 across the street from Broadway Plaza, Liberty Bell Plaza was dedicated to the nation's bicentennial by former President Gerald Ford. Walnut Creek has continued to experience rapid growth and today is the home to over 64,000 people.

While Walnut Creek is no longer a small town it still boasts of the most open space per capita than any other community in the entire state of California, bringing together the comfort and excitement of city life while still maximizing the conservation of the surrounding environment. Today with its vast expanse of open space combined with a Mediterranean climate, sweeping views of nearby Mount Diablo, and diversity of flora, Walnut Creek has been established as one of California's most picturesque and charming communities. It is a thriving city with a colorful history and a very bright future.

I ask my colleagues to join with me today in celebrating the 100th Anniversary of Walnut Creek's incorporation and in wishing the residents another century of continued prosperity.

RECOGNIZING PREGNANCY RESOURCE CENTER OF SAINT CLOUD ON THEIR 25TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. MICHELE BACHMANN**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 14, 2014*

Mrs. BACHMANN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Pregnancy Resource Center (PRC) in Saint Cloud, Minnesota for 25 years of serving men and women in the greater Saint Cloud area.

PRC, through the hard work of their licensed medical team and volunteers, offers free and confidential pregnancy tests and screening for sexually transmitted diseases. In addition, PRC provides medical information and counseling, enabling patients to consider all their options before making decisions.

The chosen theme to mark this milestone is "Together for Life," which pays homage to both their pro-life values and the fact that they are "all in this ministry together for life."

Mr. Speaker, I ask this body join with me in thanking everyone at PRC for their efforts and the services they have provided to countless men and women over the past 25 years. May they continue far into the future.

FEDERAL OVER-REGULATION AND THE CASE OF COUNTRY MEATS

**HON. RICHARD B. NUGENT**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 14, 2014*

Mr. NUGENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to draw the collective attention of the House to an unfortunate case of federal over-regulation and the consequences to a small business in my district. In Ocala, Florida, we have a small family business that has produced and distributed snacks to schools across the country for more than three decades. Country Meats makes a pork-based snack that is common to

student fundraisers and the proceeds of its sale in public schools over that time have netted more than \$30 million in support of marching bands, athletic teams and academic clubs nation-wide.

New standards established under the Healthy Hunger-Free Kid Act would prohibit the sale of anything in schools that cannot meet the nutrition standards. A well intentioned policy, but one that when rigidly enforced, excludes: cheese, milk, nuts and the snacks made by Country Meats. The Department of Agriculture applied common sense to offering exemptions for each of those items and their many variations, but not to the small family business in my district.

Country Meats is not an international business that can pool resources into a common interest of a multi-billion dollar industry to make its concerns heard in Washington. Its twenty employees in Ocala, whose jobs will be lost as collateral damage to federal overreach. This company does not have the clout to educate each state legislature on how to file exemptions with the Department of Agriculture. It needs to do that in order to continue fundraisers that have been a mainstay in schools dating back to 1978. Instead, Country Meats will be added to the list of small businesses that lost their income because of obtuse federal regulation.

TRIBUTE TO RIVERSIDE COUNTY'S RECIPIENTS OF OPERATION RECOGNITION

**HON. KEN CALVERT**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 14, 2014*

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to a group of individuals—heroes—who are receiving the recognition and honor they deserve for their service to our country. Operation Recognition is operated by the Riverside County Office of Education with assistance from the Riverside County Department of Veterans' Services. The program awards high school diplomas to veterans who missed completing high school due to military service in World War II, the Korean War, or the Vietnam War, or for those who were interned in WWII Japanese-American relocation camps.

A recognition ceremony was held on November 12, 2014, for the following individuals who received their high school diplomas through Operation Recognition:

Salvatore Joseph Amata; Joe Aviles; Gerald L. Blokzyl; Gary Howard Crone; Manuel R. Espudo; Phillip A. Klock; Henry J. LaPointe; Steven Phillip Netter; Joe Earl Pruett; Rudolfo B. Ramirez; Adam Henry Ruelas; Juan Serrano; Muhammad Shamsid-Deen; TL Shelton; Philip W. Walker; Robert S. Wible and George L. Zankl.

Our country owes a debt of gratitude to all the above recipients for their service and sacrifice. I salute all of these individuals and congratulate them on receiving their high school diploma.